

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE McCALL, IDAHO, CITY COUNCIL, VALLEY COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
June 13, 2011**

**PRESENT: GORDON L. CRUICKSHANK (CHAIRMAN)
GERALD "JERRY" WINKLE (COMMISSIONER)
RAY MOORE (COMMISSIONER)**

ARCHIE N. BANBURY, CLERK

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cruickshank at 1:00 p.m. with Clerk Banbury taking minutes.

Commissioner Winkle moved to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Moore and carried.

The minutes of June 6th, 2011 were presented for approval. Commissioner Moore moved for acceptance of the minutes, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Chairman Cruickshank opened the meeting for public comment. Lisa Gines of Cascade spoke concerning the waiver requested for an aerobatic zone south of Cascade and east of State Highway 55. She opposes such activity as there is a high possibility of accidents, concerns for liability, damage to homes, personal property, power lines, and wildfires. She also mentioned damage to Herrick Reservoir, air pollution, reduction of property values, further depression of the economy, and interruption of a peaceful life style. She said the use of the area could be for 2-3 hours daily for 3-5 months each year.

She also expressed concern for raptors, particularly the osprey.

Commissioner Winkle responded that aerobatic activity had been on going for the past three years. He recommended the Board consider her commentary, and consider it when taking a position on the issue. Cynda Herrick, Valley County Planning and Zoning Administrator, is

assigned to respond. She will do so at the Commissioner's meeting on June 20th. The County's comments are due on June 26, 2011.

Esther Mulnick spoke and thanked the Board for coming to McCall. She commented that the requested increase from Lakeshore Disposal is too much, and asked for comparative figures. She recommended Steve Sedlacek of Sanitary Services in Meridian as a source of information. She added that no recycling is not a viable option. Curbside may be too expensive but there should be another option between no recycling and curbside pickup. Against mandatory curbside recycling, however would like to have the option to allow the public to pay for the service if they choose to do so.

Robert Lyons spoke concerning economic development. He asked the Board to take a look at the Visitor and Convention organization, and set aside money for tourism, money for retention and development of new businesses, year around. He wants a package put together from the State, County and City, listing what they can do. He wants small businesses to come to Valley County and recommended an incentive package. He is willing to work on it, exploring the assets available here in Valley County.

Commissioner Moore questioned what type of incentive would be appropriate, land, infrastructure or what?

Ronda Sandmeyer wants money to be divided between tourism and other developmental efforts. We need to sustain businesses and jobs. We should explore how to obtain grants, and apply for money. Recreation will draw people here and provide the idea to stop and spend money. This is a golden place to come play. Ronda thanked the commissioners for visiting with all the cities on the economy issue.

Jim Rush spoke concerning transportation. Our roads are in bad shape, and he cited Heinrich Lane, Maki Lane, and Norwood. There is too much muck and mud. He also cited West Mountain Road, and asked if there is a Valley County Master Plan. Would a Highway District help? Chairman Cruickshank responded concerning the Transportation Plan, and explained why a Highway District would not be a good idea unless the Craig-Wyden bill is allowed to expire.

Sue Marchese spoke regarding the need for enhanced services from Treasure Valley Transit. She appreciates that they move school children at no charge.

Brent Hurst suggested less infringement by the local governments, specifically commenting that redundant safety checks on boats are discouraging the use of our waterways and encouraged a more user friendly atmosphere toward those who visit and recreate here. Government needs to provide services for safety only and not be a cushion for Economic Development.

Mike Anderson spoke on economic diversity, enhancing the availability of jobs and emphasized that we are a recreation based community and not much more. Asked what is the clear definition of Economic Development to be determined before we try and do something. We are more than a recreation community and need year round jobs to support the area. He recommended we "rein in" the budget, noting that simply holding the line may not be enough.

He commented that he favors recycling. Would like to see trash receptacles so fewer trips to the Transfer Site would be needed by residents who don't want to pay for residential pick up.

Commissioner Winkle commented that there was cooperation with departments on cutting the budget.

Commissioner Moore commented that the commissioners had worked 6-7 days on the budgets with departments to look at everything.

Larry Shake spoke in favor of recycling. He would like the Board of County Commissioners to meet in McCall more often. He would appreciate meetings at night so more folks could attend especially if it was a McCall area issue. Economic Development definition needs reviewed to understand what is needed. You also need to look good in your community so folks will want to move here.

Todd Hatfield recommended being careful with tax incentives. He would like the County to do away with the personal property tax. This would eliminate \$286,000 of revenue, but it could be made up from interest and funds left over from the prior years. Feels this would be equitable to all the business owners and could be made up from interest payments on current fund balances.

Jay Mentzer, City Councilman from Donnelly, supports getting economic development moving again. He believes he can help and is willing to do so. Set some ground rules to create a sustainable program and move forward.

This ended the public comment portion of the session.

Jerry Robinson, Valley County Road Superintendent appeared. He discussed the rock crushing contract which has fallen behind because of the inclement weather. A discussion of the penalty for late delivery by the crusher followed, with the decision concerning this to be tabled until June 27th. A motion was made by Commissioner Moore and seconded by Commissioner Winkle, to defer the penalty for 30 days, and if the new deadline is not met to double the penalty for 30 days. After discussion with Chris Seubert, the motion and second were withdrawn and the matter tabled until June 27th when Jerry can report on a proposal to get the work completed after review with Chris Seubert.

Mr. Robinson then discussed the need for certain rights-of-way and new fencing in certain areas, specifically, at the Corner of Johnson Lane and Norwood, and on Heinrich Lane between Norwood and Nissula and on Smalley Road. The fences need to be relocated in these areas so that the roads can be widened, either into the existing rights-of-way, and/or acquiring additional rights-of-way. The idea is to have the fences moved back so in the future roadways may be widened when conditions are favorable.

Mr. Robinson then commented on work the Road Department is doing. Such as opening Warren Wagon Road, looking at the Elk Creek Road project for bid, meeting with the Forest Service on the slides on Profile Summit and the application of road stabilization material on the East Fork.

Mayor Don Bailey, City Council members Jackie Aymon and Nick Swanson and McCall City Manager Lindley Kirkpatrick joined the commissioners at 3:00 pm.

At the request of Chairman Cruickshank, all City and County officials introduced themselves, and Mayor Don Bailey, City Manager Lindley Kirkpatrick, Commissioner Jerry Winkle, Chairman Gordon Cruickshank, Commissioner Ray Moore, Clerk Archie Banbury, Councilman Jackie Aymon and Councilman Nick Swanson did so.

The group then held an open discussion concerning ideas as to how to proceed to revitalize economic development. Mayor Bailey expressed his belief that economic development should extend beyond tourism. That position met with general agreement. We need sustainable jobs to include more wage earners. There is a lot of government here, federal, state and local, and that aids in stability. More of these stable jobs are needed. Most of the development here has been real estate oriented. Would like to see what we already have expanded and thought a Community College would fit well into the area.

Jackie Aymon agreed that tourism is not the only thing. We have a lot of volunteers in our communities, but you can't do everything with volunteers. We need to improve our infrastructure with more attractive, roads, sidewalks and water systems. Logging is gone, so what can we do. We need private sector growth. We do have a big asset in our retirees, and we have many.

Nic Swanson spoke on the need to enhance the existing businesses. He remembered from his family the timber industry and how that helped with the sustainability of keeping folks employed. There are many knowledgeable people here to draw from their experience.

Obstacles are identified as zoning, infrastructure, need for water and perhaps sewer, business parks are needed. We should look for light manufacturing, research and development. We need to market our communities, where do we go from here?

We do need a coordinator who can function as a data source, someone to take calls and answer questions about our communities. Mayor Bailey favors a regional focus and the pooling of money. We need to jointly consider and identify areas for our concentration, and he agrees that our infrastructure needs improvement. We need to get something in place by working with the current driver of economy and then fill the gaps with new business opportunities by thinking outside the box.

Lindley commented there are lots of ideas out there and believes the Department of Commerce can help us and a regional approach is the right way to go at it. Delta James, speaking for SAGE Resources, volunteered to contact the Department of Commerce and begin a dialogue.

Vim Braak, County Extension Educator observed that we were in substantial agreement and proceed jointly; he will help where he can.

Discussions of next steps were held and to look at meeting again after some time to think it over. Chairman Cruickshank provided the City Council members an Economic Development report prepared by Vim Braak with the Extension Office.

Terry Lindenberg spoke concerning transit funding and the role of transportation in economic development. She is confident that although some reductions in her level of service could occur, she can continue at or near the present level. They now have 15 employees in Valley County. Jay Mentzer added that from his point of view it will probably continue, particularly if Tamarack can be restarted. Mayor Bailey commented that other communities and counties are using the system. Are they paying a share of the costs and at some point there will need to be fares paid. Chairman Cruickshank advised that the grants created the system; however grants are not there in the future with recent budget cuts. When on the Governor's Transportation Task Force the discussion was user fees needed to be part of the fund source as it could not be subsidized by the tax payer. Mayor Bailey felt folks who visit the area and using the buses are getting the full benefit and not contributing.

Mayor Bailey also offered his opinion that we need to continue to support community housing, if only to monitor rents until the economy improves. We should also support continuing the housing authority at some level. Chairman Cruickshank mentioned the request of accountability of the VARHA board on what funding is spent on. Commissioner Moore commented that we need some type of housing policy. Councilwoman Aymon said there is a need to keep the structure and Lindley said for that to happen some ordinance changes will be needed.

A future meeting with the McCall Council Members should ensue with the following topics for discussion: Impact area expansion, funding for McPaws and the level of recycling for the future. These were mentioned in closing the meeting as the scheduled adjournment at 5:00 p.m. was upon us.

Lindley mentioned that the City Council meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

Meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Gordon L. Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

Archie N. Banbury, Clerk

AB/tme 6-17-11/kld 6-20-11

